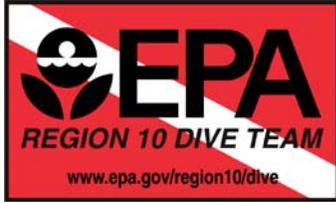


US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



[EPA Region 10 Dive Team](http://www.epa.gov/region10/dive)

Hood Canal Diver Sampling Event, Near Twanoh State Park, Belfair, WA, October 2006

What: The EPA Region 10 Dive Team assisted the Skokomish Tribe in the investigation of a bacterial mat found in Hood Canal in the Summer of 2006.

Why: Diver survey objectives were to: 1) describe the physical nature of the bottom, and 2) sample visible areas of the bacterial mat. This bacteria mat was confirmed to be *Beggiatoa* through lab analysis. *Beggiatoa* bacteria can form in low oxygen environments and actually exacerbate low oxygen conditions.

Where: Hood Canal, near Twanoh State Park.

When: Dive surveys were conducted in October, 2006.

How: Diver investigations included several dives to collect bottom samples and video.

Results: Divers found the bacterial mat to have dissipated relative to reports of a thick mat. Samples were sent to the lab to confirm the bacteria genus. This bacteria mat was confirmed to be *Beggiatoa* through lab analysis.

More Details:

Quality Assurance Project Plan: Hood Canal "Dead Zone" Bacterial Mat. (October 16, 2006. (attached)

Video: [Diver swims across "splotches" of beggiatoa bacteria](#). (3 minutes, Total file size 25 MB, Quicktime format)

Manchester Lab Report (attached)

[Photos of suspected *Beggiatoa* bacteria mat from University of Puget Sound](#)

Contact: Rob Pedersen (206) 553-1646, Pedersen.rob@epa.gov

Photos:



Tenders help Diver Kim Mills deliver bottom samples to the Monitor of the bacteria from the bottom with media looking on.



Beggiatoa bacteria patches on the bottom of Hood Canal

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